

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-12 AGRE-00  
AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00  
DLOS-09 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 SOE-02  
DOE-11 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13  
JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-07 OMB-01  
PA-01 PM-05 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /159 W  
-----070619 200026Z/20

P R 192300Z JAN 78

FM AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2979

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

CINCPAC HONOLULU

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TOKYO ALSO FOR RFO

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS PORG EFIS XP XU PP

SUBJECT: SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL FISHERIES AGENCY

REF: 77 PORT MORESBY 1849

1. I HAVE TALKED TO BOTH AUSTRALIAN ACTING HICOM WILLIAMS  
AND NEW ZEALAND HICOM MANSFIELD ABOUT PNG POSITION ON  
HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES AND US PARTICIPATION IN SP REGIONAL  
FISHERIES AGENCY (SPRFA). BOTH BELIEVE THAT GEOFFREY DABB,  
EXPATRIATE ADVISOR IN DFAT, IS DETERMINING PNG POSITION

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AND IS BEING VERY STUBBORN IN DEFENDING HIS VIEWS WITHIN  
GPNG.

2. WILLIAMS SAID DABB IS VERY CLOSE TO FONMIN OLEWALE,  
PROBABLY CLOSER THAN FONSEC TONY SIAGURU. SAID  
DABB HAS BEEN VERY DIFFICULT ON TORRES STRAITS ISSUE.

3. MANSFIELD SAID DABB IS ADVOCATING DELAYING NEXT MEETING ON SPRFA UNTIL AFTER JUNE. MANSFIELD THINKS THIS IS DELAYING TACTIC. SAID DABB IS OPPOSED TO US PARTICIPATION SEEMINGLY BECAUSE HE BELIEVES US WOULD EXPLOIT MEMBERSHIP IN SPRFA TO ITS OWN ADVANTAGE AND TO DETRIMENT OF SOUTH PACIFIC ISLAND COUNTRIES.

4. BOTH WILLIAMS AND MANSFIELD BELIEVE PNG IS ISOLATED ON THIS ISSUE IN SOUTH PACIFIC. MANSFIELD IS EXPECTING INSTRUCTION FROM WELLINGTON TO MAKE FORMAL APPROACH IN DFAT TO TALK TO ANYONE EXCEPT DABB TO TRY TO PERSUADE GPNG TO GO ALONG WITH MARCH MEETING IN SUVA AND TO GET INTO LINE WITH OTHER FORUM COUNTRIES.

5. SUBJECT OF SPRFA IS EXPECTED TO BE DISCUSSED AT SIDE MEETING OF REGIONAL COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT CONFERENCE IN CANBERRA NEXT MONTH. BOTH PM SOMARE AND FONMIN OLEWALE WILL ATTEND FOR PNG. WILLIAMS THINKS DABB WILL NOT ATTEND. MANSFIELD AND WILLIAMS HOPE PNG CAN BE BROUGHT AROUND AT THAT MEETING.

6. WHEN I WAS ON CONSULTATION IN DECEMBER I WAS INFORMED BY OFA THAT GPNG WAS FULLY AWARE OF THE US POSITION AS RESULT OF BRIEFINGS AT SUVA MEETING. APPEARS TO ME, R HGWEVER, WE ARE RELYING ON PERSON MOST OPPOSED TO US POSITION (DABB) TO CONVEY IT TO OTHERS IN GPNG.

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7. ASST. SEC. HOLBROOKE MADE FORCEFUL PRESENTATION OF US POSITION TO MINISTER OF LABOR AND COMMERCE LEMEKE ON JAN 4. HOWEVER, EVEN THOUGH DFAT REP WAS PRESENT AT MEETING AND TOOK NOTES, WE CANNOT BE ASSURED MESSAGE GOT TO PEOPLE WHO WILL MAKE DECISION.

8. I BELIEVE INFORMAL, LOW KEY APPROACH TO OLEWALE WOULD BE MOST EFFECTIVE MEANS OF CONVEYING US POSITION. I SEE HIM OFTEN ENOUGH TO BE ABLE TO DO IT CASUALLY. I WILL NEED, HOWEVER, A MORE DETAILED AND PRECISE STATEMENT OF US POSITION THAN WE HAVE YET RECEIVED. DOES USG CARE WHETHER MARCH MEETING IS DELAYED?

9. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE TRANSMIT STATMENT OF US POSITION INDICATED IN PARA 7.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FISHERIES, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 19 jan 1978  
**Decapton Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decapton Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1978PORTM00117  
**Document Source:** CORE  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 3  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 PORT MORESBY 1849  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL FISHERIES AGENCY  
**TAGS:** PLOS, PORG, EFIS, XP, XU, PP  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014